

scenes of his childhood or a preference for parochial work, probably both combined, led him to forego this advantageous position for a second edition of the life of a country clergyman at Altcar, near Liverpool, a presentation of the Earl of Sefton. The population was a scattered one of three hundred souls, and the care and companionship of these was scarcely adequate to keep up the mental calibre in a man like Mr. Pearson, who was always full, even to excitement, of scientific instincts. Here, however, he found one or two congenial spirits and kindred tastes, whose friendship he held dear to the end of his days. Another change yet awaited him, and in 1862 he went to Workington as vicar of St. John's in that town, and remained nine years, quitting it in 1871 to go to Fleetwood. At Workington he was greatly appreciated both as a teacher and a preacher, and this appreciation was manifested in a high degree by a handsome testimonial presented on his leaving, and more handsomely impressed by the testimony to his worth in the words which accompanied the presentation.

His scientific researches, besides astronomy, went in the direction of the study of the tides, and on this subject he was a very frequent and constant contributor to scientific papers. His system of tide computation was adopted by the Admiralty for this coast, and he designed and had erected on the pier at Fleetwood a novel and ingenious contrivance for registering the height of the tides and testing his calculations, which were always found to be very accurate. He designed several novel contrivances in connection with this subject, one of which has been for some time erected on the Blackpool Pier and another at Fleetwood. It consists of a dial, which is set each day and points to the height of the tide at all hours during that day, both ebb and flow. He also published a *Treatise on the Tides* in 1881, which was hailed with much approval by many astronomers of the day, and very soon became scarce. Several works of a minor character on this and kindred subjects proceeded at different periods from his pen, all denoting the enthusiasm of the author for his favourite studies.

Mr. Pearson died on April 8, 1886, after a lingering and painful illness.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society April 10, 1874.

ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES FREDERICK ALEXANDER SHADWELL K.C.B., F.R.S., was born on January 31, 1814, and was the fourth son of the late Right Hon. Sir Lancelot Shadwell, Vice Chancellor of England. He entered the navy May 3, 1827, from the Royal Naval College, and passed his examination in 1833. On June 28, 1838, he obtained his lieutenant's commission, and was appointed in the following July to the *Casto* Captain Edward Collier, with whom he served on the coast of Syria in 1840, and assisted at the operations against Caiffa, Jaffa, Tsour, and St. Jean d'Acre. His next appointment was

as first lieutenant of the *Fly*, in the East Indies, from December 1841 until June 1846, when he was promoted to be commander. In February 1850 he commanded the *Sphynx*, for service in the East Indies, and held this command through the Burmese War of 1851–1853, for his services in which he was on February 7, 1853, promoted to post rank, was gazetted to the Order of the Bath, and received the Burmese war medal with clasp. His next appointment was, in August 1856, to the *Highflyer*, which he commanded in the last war with China, taking part in the operations in the Canton River and in the capture of Canton, and being wounded in the attack on the forts at the mouth of the Peiho River in July 1859. For his services on this occasion Captain Shadwell was mentioned in despatches for “his valuable assistance.” After the China War he was appointed to the *Aboukir*, which he commanded in the Channel and North America and West Indies in 1861 and 1862. His next appointment was that of flag-captain, in the *Hastings*, to Rear-Admiral Sir Lewis F. Jones at Queenstown, which he held till June 1864, when he was made Captain Superintendent of the Royal Haslar Hospital and of the Royal Clarence Victualling Yard. In this post he remained till he became Rear-Admiral in January 1869, vacating at the same time his appointment as Naval Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, which he had received in March 1866. He was commander-in-chief on the China station from 1871–1874. In 1873 he was gazetted a Knight Commander of the Bath, and in 1877 received the flag officers’ pension for meritorious service. His last appointment was that of President of the Royal Naval College at Greenwich, which post he held from March 1878 till March 1881. He died at Meadowbank, Melksham, Wilts, on March 1, 1886.

In the year 1861 Sir Charles F. A. Shadwell was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. He was the author of the following works :—“*Formulæ of Navigation and Nautical Astronomy*” (for the use of naval officers and students of nautical astronomy), “*Tables for Facilitating the Approximate Prediction of Occultations and Eclipses*,” “*Tables for Facilitating the Determination of the Latitude and Time at Sea by Observations of the Stars*,” “*Tables for Facilitating the Reduction of Lunar Observations*,” “*Notes on the Management of Chronometers and the Measurement of Meridian Distances*,” “*Notes on Interpolation, Mathematical and Practical*” (intended to form Ch. VI. of a work on navigation and nautical astronomy, which the author left incomplete at his death).

He was elected a Fellow of this Society on January 8, 1847.

DAVID SMITH was born at Selby, Yorkshire, in September 1821. He left school at the age of fourteen, and for about eighteen months was employed as a railway clerk, after which he was apprenticed to a carpenter and builder, and also studied for an architect and surveyor. In the year 1842 he went to